

PS, R11-328



November 2, 2011

RECEIVED
NOV 3 6 23 AM '11
CITY CLERK
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Honorable Ernest Martin, Chair
City Council
City and County of Honolulu
Kapolei Hale
1000 Uluohia Street, Conference Rooms A, B, and C
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

Council Chair Martin,

Subject: Resolution No. 11-328 that proposes to initiate an amendment to the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973, relating to the Public Transit Authority

My name is Shane Peters, immediate past President of the Hawaii Developers' Council (HDC). We represent over 200 members and associates in development-related industries. The mission of Hawaii Developers' Council (HDC) is to educate developers and the public regarding land, construction and development issues through public forums, seminars and publications.

It is also the goal of HDC to promote high ethics and community responsibility in real estate development and related trades and professions.

We **strongly oppose** Resolution No. 11-328, that would effectively have the project placed on the 2012 ballot. The Resolution proposes to have the following question placed on the ballot:

"Shall the Revised City Charter be amended to prohibit the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation from developing, operating, maintaining, and expanding a fixed guideway system that includes "steel wheel on steel rail" technology?"

The reason for the question being placed on the ballot appears to be based on the difference in cost between the Airport Route and the Salt Lake Route, a difference of \$200 Million according to the resolution. The resolution concludes that based on this "significant" increase in the estimated cost of the project (total cost estimated at \$5.5 Billion), the voters should be given an opportunity to consider a quieter and less expensive system.

In November of 2008, the voters of City and County of Honolulu approved the steel wheel on steel rail transit system. The voters subsequently approved the creation of a public transit



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Honolulu City Council

Kapolei Hale

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

RECEIVED
NOV 1 3 42 PM '11
CITY CLERK
HONOLULU, HAWAII

To: Chair Ernest Y. Martin and Councilmembers
From: Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro
Re: Resolution 11-203 CD1, FD1: **in opposition**

I thank the Council for the opportunity to testify on a resolution that addresses flood prevention and remediation on the Leeward Coast. As Senator from the district that would be impacted by this resolution, I offered supportive testimony, with a friendly amendment, to your Committee on Safety, Economic Development & Government Affairs at its October 11 meeting. I thank the Committee for adopting the suggested amendment and I commend Councilman Berg's commitment to working with the community on this issue. While I acknowledge the resolution's good intentions, I have decided to oppose it because of certain unintended consequences.

My initial endorsement of Resolution 11-203 was based on my perception that it would formalize community recommendations emerging from a September 29 town hall meeting on the Wai'anae Coast. This community input has resulted in ongoing efforts by city, state and federal legislators and agencies to implement the recommendations. If I thought the resolution in its present form would expedite this work, I would continue to support it.

However, I believe the two BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED clauses at the bottom of page one — with strict reporting and notice requirements—would hinder the working group's progress and make our job even more difficult. In dealing with emergency situations such as flooding, time is of the essence. To implement all of the requirements of this resolution would mean investing time and resources we don't have. We lack adequate staff and funding to prepare notices six days in advance, post agendas, record minutes—then write a major report within 90 days!

By way of amendment, I suggest that the two clauses cited above be removed from the resolution and not replaced by language that would place similar burdensome requirements on the task force. If this is not possible, I recommend that you hold the resolution and let those who are already working toward a solution to the flooding problem continue their work unencumbered.

Mahalo for patience and understanding as we continue to work together for our constituents!

Office of State Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro
Hawaii Senate District 21 - Wai'anae Coast

Ko Olina ❖ Kahe Point ❖ Nanakuli ❖ Ma'ili ❖ Wai'anae ❖ Makaha ❖ Makua ❖ Ka'ena Point
(808) 586-7793 ❖ (808) 586-7797 FAX ❖ senshimabukuro@capitol.hawaii.gov ❖ 21maile.com

COUNCIL